

[Similar letters were sent to The Honorable William M. Thomas, Chairman, Committee on Ways and Means, The Honorable Charles B. Rangel, Ranking Member, Committee on Ways and Means, The Honorable W. Todd Akin, co- sponsor H.R. 4840]

July 19, 2004

Via Facsimile and Hand Delivery

The Honorable Philip M. Crane
Vice-Chairman, Committee on Ways and Means
United States House of Representatives
233 Cannon House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

RE: H.R. 4840, Tax Simplification for America's Job Creators Act of 2004

Dear Vice-Chairman Crane:

I am writing to commend your leadership in introducing H.R. 4840, the Tax Simplification for America's Job Creators Act of 2004, and to advise you and the Members of your Committee of the Office of Advocacy's support for this legislation.

My office was established pursuant to Pub.L. 94-305 to independently represent the views of small business before Federal agencies and Congress. Because of the statutory independence granted to the Office of Advocacy, the views expressed here do not necessarily reflect the views of the U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA) or the Administration.

The Office of Advocacy has consistently supported Congress' efforts to extend section 179 expensing and cash accounting for small business taxpayers. H.R. 4840 pushes the "sunset" date for increased section 179 expensing out to the end of 2007 and indexes to inflation the size of business eligible for simpler cash accounting. These provisions are doubly welcome to small businesses because they both save taxes and simplify tax reporting for entities most greatly affected by the tax code's complexity.

An additional benefit of your legislation is the elimination of 61 pieces of “deadwood” in the Internal Revenue Code. We understand that this action is consistent with recommendations made by the Joint Committee on Taxation. Again, it is this Office’s position that simplification of the tax code is a paramount priority.

We commend your attention to these issues, applaud the Committee’s commitment to report the bill for passage by the U.S. House of Representatives, and look forward to continuing to work with you and other Members of Congress to ensure its enactment. We think H.R. 4840 further evidences Congress’ concern for small businesses and the vital role they play in the nation’s economy.

Thank you for all your efforts on behalf of small businesses. Please feel free to call on me if I can be of assistance to you or the Committee.

Sincerely,

Thomas M. Sullivan
Chief Counsel for Advocacy